

**CITY OF LONG BEACH DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
LONG BEACH SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMISSION**

MINUTES

May 20, 2004

**Location: El Dorado Senior Center
2800 Studebaker Rd.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Higginson, Chair, called the meeting of the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission to order at 9:18 a.m., at the El Dorado Senior Center.

II. FLAG SALUTE – Commissioner Higginson, Chair

III. ROLL CALL / WELCOME OF GUESTS

The following Commissioners responded to roll call and confirmed a quorum.

Patricia Bergendahl, 6th District - Excused
Barbara Bolin, 9th District
Rose Cabanban, 7th District
Betty Davenport, 5th District
Florence Dodge, 3rd District - Excused
Teodoro Felix, 1st District
Harold Goetz, 5th District

Rabbi Sidney Guthman, 3rd District
Nancy Higginson, 3rd District
Teresa Munoz, 2nd District - Excused
Lu Wall, 3rd District
Robert Wenke, 3rd District - Excused
Berry Yolken, 3rd District

Staff

Belem Solis, Superintendent
Shelley Hellen, Community Services Supervisor
Del Ransom, Clerk II

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 15, 2004

The April 15, 2004 Senior Citizens Advisory Commission Minutes were approved as mailed.

V. GUEST SPEAKER (S)

Tom Giles, Sound Energy Solution Manager - Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) spoke to the Commission regarding Sound Energy Solutions (SES), a wholly owned subsidiary of Mitsubishi Corporation, seeking to construct and operate a 27 -acre liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal at the Port of Long Beach. The terminal would include an offloading berth, two 160,000-cubic-meter receiving tanks, a re-gasification facility and an LNG fuel terminal (LNG gas station). The terminal would receive and distribute both natural gas and LNG vehicle fuel for local consumption. Specially designed, double-hulled LNG carriers would call at the facility approximately 70 times each year. SES estimates the proposed facility will be operational by late 2007 or early 2008 at a cost of \$400 million. (Attachment)

VI. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

William Britt of the Association of Patient Advocates
Diana Lejins, Advocates for Disability Rights

Mr. Britt and Ms. Lejins spoke to the Commission regarding the practice of jailing and prosecuting legitimate Long Beach patients who use medicinal marijuana. (Attachment)

Mr. Britt also informed the Commission on classes and programs offered through the Center for People with Disabilities. (Attachment)

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Atlantic Community Economic Development Corporation

Commissioner Goetz attended a study of the Atlantic Community Economic Development Corporation and informed the Commission that the study was designed to encourage seniors to use the Internet, especially in the health information field. (Attachment)

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Legislation – Commissioner Teresa Munoz

The Legislation Committee had nothing to Report.

B. Transportation – Commissioner Nancy Higginson

Commissioner Higginson distributed her report on Reducing Fuel Consumption by 50% from an article in the Long Beach Transit Newsletter, which explained how 27 new Hybrid busses would be 50% more fuel efficient, dramatically reducing air emissions. (Attachment)

Commissioner Higginson also distributed a report on AquaLink and Aquabus water taxis extended summer schedule, that serves popular waterfront locations, such as: The Queen Mary, Catalina Express Carnival Cruise locations and the Aquarium of the Pacific. (Attachment)

Recreation Supervisor, Shelley Hellen and Senior Coordinator, Eileen Ludlam spoke to the Commission about the possible cancellation of FAME Renaissance Taxi Voucher Program. This program provides transportation services to senior citizens and the general public who are in need of transportation to the doctors, supermarkets and general errands.

The Commission decided to send a letter to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), Board of Directors to encourage them to continue the current program.

C. Health Care – Commissioner Berry Yolken

Commissioner Yolken distributed his report on Medicare Discount Cards. Commissioner Yolken informed the Commission on Fraudulent Medicare cards, the confusion of different suites of drugs, and problems with inflation of drug prices. Only 7 million of the 41 million would be eligible will benefit for certain from the new cards and how Medicare is spending 18 million to advertise the program. Commissioner Yolken also passed out disaster Preparedness for Senior by Seniors brochures. (Attachment)

Commissioner Davenport distributed the Five Wishes booklet, which is the first living will that talks about personal, emotional, and spiritual needs as well as your medical wishes. (Attachment)

D. Housing – Commissioner Teodoro Felix

Commissioner Felix informed the Commission of the article “City Officials Present Housing Plan” in the Long Beach Business Journal, which explained how the city has come up with a five-year, \$74 million housing action plan to meet affordable-housing needs. (Attachment)

Commissioner Teodoro also updated the Commission on the \$ 28.7 million deal to refinance and rehabilitate more than 300 existing affordable homes housing units in dozen apartment projects across the city. (Attachment)

E. Safety and Crime Prevention – Commissioner Patricia Bergendahl

Commissioner Bergendahl’s report dated May 19, 2004 was distributed to the Commission. The report spoke of a weaponless defense meeting held by Defense Instructors Larry Jones and James Schlobohm, which explained how different holds, pressure points and leverage against attackers could be effective. (Attachment)

Commissioner Bergendahl’s report also contained the Long Beach Police Departments Crime Watch Newsletter and community flyers. (Attachment)

F. Quality of Life and Leisure – Commissioner Florence Dodge

The Legislation Committee had nothing to Report.

G. Community Relations – Commissioner Betty Davenport

Commissioner Davenport distributed brochures on the Lone Sailor Memorial and informed the Commission that Partners of Parks is raising funds for this memorial. (Attachment)

Commissioner Davenport also informed the Commission that Partners of Parks is in the process of purchasing the bookbinding equipment, which will be used in the final production of the Resource Directory.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Farewell Potluck

The Commission decided to have a Farewell Potluck for Commissioner Harold Goetz; in honor of his dedicated 8 years of service to the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Agencies and Programs on Aging (APA) appointment.

Commissioner Yolken was selected to represent the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission at the meetings of Agencies and Programs on Aging (APA) Committee.

XI. STAFF REPORTS

- A.** Shelley Hellen, Community Services Supervisor, reported on senior activities in the Long Beach Senior Center, which included: The Father's Day Celebration to be held on June 18, and the "A Laugh a Day Seminar to be held on June 22.
- B.** Eileen Ludlam, Senior Coordinator, reported on senior activities at Houghton Park, which included: A trip to the Los Angeles County Arboretum, Senior Center Week June 10-15, and the return of Dinner and a Movie.
- C.** Belem Solis, Recreation Superintendent, informed the Commission that the California Recreation Center Mother's Day Celebration was a big success.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Yolken informed the Commission, that Senior Citizen Advisory Commission, Secretary, Lu Wall was featured in the Press Telegram's - Beach Week publication of "You say: Heard on the Street." This article asked seniors, "Do you think young people today spend their money wisely and plan for the future? What advice do you have for them?"

XIII. NEXT MEETING

The Executive Board meeting of the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission will be held on Thursday, June 3, 2004 at 10:00 a.m., at the Long Beach Senior Center. In attendance will be Commissioners Nancy Higginson, Berry Yolken, Lu Wall, and Rose Cabanban.

The General meeting of the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission will be held on Thursday, June 17, 2004 at 9:00 a.m., at the Long Beach Senior Center, 1150 E. 4th Street, Long Beach, CA 90802.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Higginson adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.